

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 AF-08 ARA-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, UN

SUBJECT: ROME GENEVA GROUP MEETING ON FAO BUDGET, OCTOBER
21, 1976

REF: ROME 17351

1. GENEVA GROUP ROME MET NOV 4 TO DISCUSS JOINT ACTION ON
FAO BUDGET, SEE REFTEL. LONG DISCUSSION MOSTLY REVIEWED
WORK OF GENEVA GROUP GENEVA, BUT FINALLY AGREED TO MANDATE
AUTHORIZING GENEVA GROUP ROME CO-CHAIRMEN TO SEEK MEETING WITH
FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL SAOUMA AS SOON AS HE RETURNS FROM AFRICAN
REGIONAL CONFERENCE ABOUT NOV 11. CO-CHAIRMEN ARE TO INDICATE
CONCERN OVER RAPIDLY INCREASING UN SPECIALIZED AGENCY BUDGETS
AND GENEVA GROUP'S DESIRE TO WORK WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL IN
PREPARING NEXTFAO BUDGET FOR 1978/79. TOWARD THIS END,
CO-CHAIRMEN ARE TO SOUND OUT SAOUMA'S VIEWS ON NEXT FAO BUDGET
AND SUGGEST HE MEET WITH FULL GENEVA GROUP ROME.
WHOLE APPROACH IS TO BE WORDED IN TONES OF CONCERN OVER BUDGET

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INCREASES, DESIRE TO WORK WITH DG, AND ATTEMPT TO BUILD AN

ONGOING AND DEEPENING CONSULTATION BETWEEN FAO AND GENEVA GROUP
ON PREPARATION OF NEXT FAO BUDGET. FUTURE GOAL MIGHT BE SPECIFIC
INDICATIVE BUDGET LEVEL, BUT THIS SESSION WITH DG WOULD BE
ORAL AND IN GENERAL TERMS.

2. GENEVA GROUP ROME DISCUSSED DRAFT GENEVA GROUP GENEVA
LETTER, BUT AGREED TO WAIT UNTIL DECISION WAS MADE IN GENEVA
LEETER BEFORE CONSIDERING HOW TO USE IT IN ROME.

3. DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION ONLY NEW IDEAS WERE JAPANESE
SUPPORT FOR FAO BUDGET INCREASE OF 8 PERCENT IN REAL GROWTH

TERMS. FRENCH AND SWISS REFINED THEIR VIEWS, REFTEL PARA 2
AS FOLLOWS: FRENCH SEE 10 PERCENT AS TOTAL PER ANNUM INCREASE
IN BUDGET, TO INCLUDE INFLATIONARY COSTS AS WELL AS REAL
PROGRAM GROWTH. SWISS 8 PERCENT FIGURE REFERS TO REAL
GROWTH PER ANNUM ONLY. VOLPE

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